



DATE: July 7, 2008

CONTACT: Mark Shaffer, Director of Communications, (602) 771-2215

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## **ADEQ Director Owens Announces Nearly \$31,000 in Grants to Support Recycling in Coconino County**

PHOENIX (July 7, 2008) – Arizona Department of Environmental Quality Director Steve Owens announced today that ADEQ is awarding \$30,982 to fund recycling projects in Flagstaff, rural parts of Coconino County and the Grand Canyon.

“Recycling is one of our most effective tools to protect our environment,” Owens said. “We are delighted to provide these grants to increase recycling throughout Flagstaff and Coconino County.”

Owens said that ADEQ is awarding a \$27,246 grant to Northern Arizona University to fund “Partners in Recycling,” a comprehensive community education campaign to increase participation in recycling and reduce contamination of recyclables in Flagstaff and Coconino County, as well as Northern Arizona University and public schools in Flagstaff..

“This will increase public awareness of the importance of recycling, as well as the opportunities to recycle in the area,” Owens said.

The campaign will reach targeted audiences through media advertising, classroom presentations, Willow Bend discovery room field trips, recycling bin distribution and community event presence. NAU is partnering with The City of Flagstaff, Coconino County and Willow Bend Environmental Education Center, a nonprofit organization in Flagstaff.

The second grant ADEQ is awarding is \$3,736 to Norton Environmental Waste Services LLC in Flagstaff to increase recycling by visitors, residents and employees at Grand Canyon National Park. The funds will be used to purchase 60 new animal-proof recycling containers to provide convenient recycling throughout the park. The bins will be used to fill in gaps in the national park’s current recycling system in order to increase collection of recyclables and decrease contamination.

“There is a great need to increase recycling efforts at the Grand Canyon National Park,” Owens stated. “This grant will make a big difference in the Park.”